

## Jamilya at Workforce Boards of Metropolitan Chicago - Will County Healthcare Careers—Skilled Workers, Strong Earnings

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Jamilya Rudd was referred to Central States SER's Healthcare Careers, part of the Health Profession Opportunity Grants (HPOG) funded by the Administration for Children and Families' Office of Family Assistance. The day she heard about the program, she attended the information session. With prior knowledge of health information management, Jamilya was in need of a job but had not been provided with a chance. Therefore, she took full advantage of the opportunity that was presented to her and completed SER's Healthcare Bridge program.

Soon after, Jamilya was successfully able to enroll in Triton College's Certified Nursing Assistant training. By April 2012, she had passed the Illinois Certified Nursing Assistant State Board Exam. Her rapid educational advancement was followed by a job offer as a Certified Nursing Assistant.

Jamilya then started reconnecting with people she had previously met in the medical field. She described her skills to them and showed her new credential. She was able to develop a relationship with someone who offered her the position she currently holds as a Medical Records Director.

The day Jamilya was hired by her current employer, her life drastically changed. Not only does she hold an important position within the company, but she is now earning a sustainable salary, which is having positive effects in her personal life. Additionally, her employer is providing her with healthcare benefits and tuition reimbursement up to \$2,500 if she chooses to continue attending college.

Within the next three years, Jamilya would like to obtain her Associates degree in Health Information Technology. She says, "I want to be a Registered Health Education Tech for the State of Illinois." With all of her success, Jamilya has not forgotten to assist those in her community. She has developed an employer relationship with Central States SER and even helped employ other participants. She now sits on the Healthcare Bridge program's advisory board.

Jamilya is a prime example of excellence. The training program SER introduced her to opened the doors of success for not only her, but also many more to follow.